

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 OES-06 ERDA-05 ACDA-07
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 FEAE-00
DODE-00 COME-00 SS-15 PM-04 /090 W
----- 069775 /41

R 201556Z DEC 76
FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2635
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 2899
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MNUC, TECH, EEC, CA
SUBJECT: CANADA-EURATOM SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT

REF: EC BRUSSELS 12477

1. WE HAD FURTHER DISCUSSION ON EURATOM-CANADA NEGOTIATING
IMPASSE ON DECEMBER 20 WITH CANADIAN MISSION DCM LEE. HE
CONFIRMED THAT, UNLESS THERE IS UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENT
BEFORE DECEMBER 31, CURRENT EURATOM-CANADA AGREEMENT ON
NUCLEAR SUPPLY WILL END. AS HE SEES IT, CANADA HAS FOUR
OPTIONS:

A) CONCLUDE AGREEMENT CURRENTLY ON THE TABLE. THIS IS
REGARDED AS HIGHLY UNLIKELY DUE TO FRENCH OPPOSITION.

B) CONCLUDE SOME KIND OF INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH EURATOM
PENDING UNBLOCKING OF FULL AGREEMENT ABOVE.

C) SEEK SPECIAL BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH A FEW OF THE KEY
MEMBER STATES TO PERMIT CONTINUED SUPPLY WHILE AWAITING
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CONCLUSION OF AGREEMENT WITH EURATOM (SEE REFTEL).

D) CUT OFF EXPORTS AS FROM JANUARY 1.

2. CANADIANS REGARD QUESTION OF CONTINUED SUPPLY TO BE
DOMINATED BY NEED TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF 1974 CANADIAN

POLICY (WHICH EXTENDS TO CONTROL OVER TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS AS WELL AS SAFEGUARDS FOR MATERIALS). LEE INDICATED THAT OTTAWA IS LESS CONCERNED ABOUT TECHNICAL VIOLATION OF NPT, WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS A "LAWYERS DILEMMA". WHILE HE COULD NOT GUARANTEE THAT GOC WOULD CONTINUE SUPPLY IN ABSENCE OF FORMAL IAEA-EURATOM SYSTEM IF EURATOM-CANADIAN BILATERAL ARRANGEMENT WORKED OUT, HE DESCRIBED CANADIAN ATTITUDE ON FORMER AS "RELATIVELY FLEXIBLE", WITH CANADA INCLINED TO ADOPT "RULE OF REASON" APPROACH TO IAEA-EURATOM PROBLEM. HOWEVER, HE WAS NOT SANGUINE THAT GOC WOULD EXTEND THIS VIEW TO SITUATION IN WHICH THERE WAS NO ARRANGEMENT TO SATISFY REQUIREMENTS OF CANADIAN POLICY ON BILATERAL TRANS-ACTIONS, WHICH, FOR CANADA, IS THE REAL PROBLEM AT THIS POINT.HINTON

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